

intermission museum of art

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INTERMISSION MUSEUM OF ART PRESENTS:

jodi hays | ayanah moor

t/here or t/here

01 - 30 june 2021

NEW YORK, NY – Intermission Museum of Art (IMA) is proud to launch *t/here or t/here*, featuring the collaborative work of Jodi Hays and Ayanah Moor. *t/here or t/here* will be featured throughout June 2021 as the final installment of IMA’s inaugural Volume I Series.

We live in an increasingly visual world, yet visual literacy is often overlooked. Visual material - a language itself - is often translated, digested, sterilized, muted, or rendered impotent for consumption. This can happen when the images that surround us are controlled by those in power and is exasperated when education, even fine art education, pays little attention to fully understanding the complexities and nuances of the visual. Like much of our consumed material, the visual is neatly packed and sold to us as non-threatening, docile and easily understood.

Artists combat this reality by constantly engaging in the visual, attempting to understand as much as possible by surrounding themselves with the language, while also engaging in meaningful and complex visual conversations in the studio. These conversations are often unconscious, determined by formal elements (materials) or conceptual elements (philosophies). When artists “talk” visually with one another, exciting and new understandings emerge and the cultural discourse becomes dynamic and elevated. Over the past several months Jodi Hays and Ayanah Moor participated in one such conversation, resulting in a layered visual discussion about togetherness, generosity, love and so much more.

JODI HAYS (b. 1976, Arkansas, US) is a painter who exhibits widely across the United States. Her work has been shown at the Wiregrass Museum, Stoveworks Museum, the Brooks Museum (Memphis), Red Arrow Gallery, David Lusk Gallery, Labspace, Tiger Strikes Asteroid (GVL), Fisk University, Browsing Room, L Ross Gallery, Curb Center at Vanderbilt University, Grizzly Grizzly, Boston Center for the Arts and Cooper Union.

She is a 2019 Finalist for the Hopper Prize. She is the recipient of grants from Sustainable Arts Foundation, the Individual Artist Fellowship from the Tennessee Arts Commission, and the Elizabeth Firestone Graham Foundation. Residencies include The Cooper Union School of Art and Vermont Studio Center. Her work is documented in catalogues and has been published in *New American Painting* (upcoming) and *Hyperallergic*, and positively reviewed in publications such as *ArtForum International*, *New Art Examiner*, *Number Inc. Magazine*, the *Nashville Scene* and *Two Coats of Paint*.

Her paintings can be found in many public and corporate collections including the J Crew Group (New York), Nashville International Airport, National Parks of America, Gordon College (MA), the Tennessee State Museum, among others. She lives and works in Nashville, Tennessee.

jodihays.com

AYANAH MOOR (b. 1973) is a visual artist whose work explores blackness, gender, desire, and language through the medium of painting, print, drawing, and performance. She utilizes existing material and cultural artifacts to generate alternative histories, corrective and counter-narratives. Her work engages subversive and demonstrative displays of blackness that locate love, fear, myth, and desire. Ayanah Moor earned a bachelor of fine arts from Virginia Commonwealth University and a master of fine arts from Tyler School of Art, Temple University. Moor's exhibitions include the Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago, DePaul Art Museum and, Museum of Contemporary Photography, (Chicago); Andy Warhol Museum, (Pittsburgh); Studio Museum in Harlem, (NY); daadgalerie, (Berlin); ONE National Gay and Lesbian Archives—University of Southern California Libraries; Adobe Books, (San Francisco); Subliminal Projects, (Los Angeles); Te Tuhi Centre for the Arts, (Auckland); Proyecto 'ace, (Buenos Aires), and Urban Institute for Contemporary Arts, (Grand Rapids), among others. Her artwork is featured in *Astria Suparak* and *Brett Kashmere's*, *Incite: Journal of Experimental Media*, *SPORTS* (2017), *Nicole Fleetwood's*, *Troubling Vision: Performance, Visuality, and Blackness* (2011) and, *What is Contemporary Art?* (2009) by Terry E. Smith.

ayanah.com

